

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 04032 241038Z

14-12  
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 IO-03 H-01 L-01 PA-01 PM-03

PRS-01 SP-02 SAM-01 SSM-01 EB-03 USIE-00 /049 W

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O 240955Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6053

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

USINT BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T KUWAIT 4032

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KU, LE

SUBJECT: ARAB MINI-SUMMIT AND LEBANESE SOLUTION

1. SUMMARY: IN CONVERSATION AUG 23 MINED AL-MARZOUQ SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF ARAB-MINI-SUMMIT ON LEBANON INSTEAD OF FULL ARAB LEAGUE SUMMIT MEETING. MINI-SUMMIT WOULD INCLUDE KUWAIT, SAUDI ARABIA, EGYPT, SYRIA, PLO AND LEBANON (REPRESENTED BY SARKIS). AL-MARZOUQ ALSO SAW ONLY POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO LEBANESE CRISIS TO BE FEDERATION OR OUTRIGHT PARTITION.

2. DURING DINNER PARTY AUG 23 AT RESIDENCE ATTENDED BY MINED JASSIM AL-MARZOUQ, KUWAIT UN PERMREP ABDULLAH BISHARA, AND EGYPTIAN AMB IBRAHIM AMONG OTHERS, I QUERIED AL-MARZOUQ ON PROSPECTS FOR ARAB SUMMIT WHICH GOK HAS BEEN SEEKING SO

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 KUWAIT 04032 241038Z

ACTIVELY TO ORGANIZE. AL-MARZOUQ, INCIDENTALLY, HAS ALSO BEEN

ACTING AS MINSTATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS DURING SEVERAL-WEEK  
ABSENCE OF ABDUL AZIZ HUSSEIN, WHO JUST NOW RETURNED.

3. MARZOUQ INDICATED THAT CURRENT THINKING SEEMED TO FAVOR HOLDING  
A MINI-SUMMIT. PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE KUWAIT, SAUDI ARABIA,  
EGYPT, SYRIA, PLO AND LEBANON. LEBANON WOULD BE REPRESENTED  
BY PRESIDENT-ELECT SARKIS. REASON FOR PREFERENCE OF SMALL GATHER-  
ING WOULD BE TO AVOID INTRODUCTION INTO SUMMIT MEETING OF OTHER  
CURRENT ARAB PROBLEMS BESIDES LEBANON, SUCH AS EGYPT-LIBYA  
CONTROVERSY, SAHARA DISPUTE, ETC., AND I WOULD IMAGINE ALSO TO  
KEEP RADICAL ARABS LIKE IRAQ, LIBYA AND ALGERIA OUT OF DISCUSSIONS  
ON LEBANON. IN REPLY TO MY SPECIFIC QUESTION, AL-MARZOUQ SAID  
THAT JORDAN WAS NOT BEING CONSIDERED AS A PARTICIPANT.

4. IN ENSUING DISCUSSION OF LEBANESE SITUATION, AL-MARZOUQ  
SAID THAT ONLY TWO ALTERNATIVES APPEAR AS POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO  
CRISIS, EITHER FEDERATION OR OUTRIGHT PARTITION. EGYPTIAN AMB, WHO  
WAS LISTENING TO THIS CONVERSATION, NOTED THAT ALL AND SUNDRY HAD  
PUBLICLY OPPOSED PARTITION OF LEBANON. AL-MARZOUQ AGREED BUT  
DISMISSED THESE PROFESSIONS OF OPPOSITION AND SAID HE HIMSELF  
THOUGHT OUTRIGHT PARTITION WOULD BE MORE LIKELY AND LOGICAL  
OUTCOME, GIVEN ANIMOSITIES WHICH EXIST BETWEEN CHRISTIANS AND  
MOSLEM/PALESTINIAN/LEFTIST FACTIONS. HE NOTED, FOR EXAMPLE,  
THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO PUT TOGETHER A UNIFIED LEBANESE  
ARMY COMPOSED OF CHRISTIANS AND MOSLEMS.

5. I ASKED WHETHER THIS WOULD MEAN EXTENSION OF SYRIAN POWER  
IN THE AREA, THAT IS, OVER THE MOSLEM PORTION OF A PARTITIONED  
LEBANON. AL-MARZOUQ THOUGHT NOT, OBSERVING THAT JUMBLATT WOULD  
CERTAINLY RESIST SYRIAN INFLUENCE AND THAT IRAQIS COULD BE COUNTED  
ON TO BRING SUFFICIENT PRESSURE TO RESTRAIN SYRIA IN THIS REGARD.

6. COMMENT: I CAN ONLY PRESUME THAT AL-MARZOUQ'S COMMENTS  
REFLECT KUWAIT'S CONTACTS WITH OTHER ARABS AS WELL AS ITS OWN  
CABINET DELIBERATIONS. VOA REPORT THIS MORNING (AUG 24) INDICATING  
SYRIAN AGREEMENT TO ATTEND SUMMIT MAY IMPROVE CHANCES OF FULL  
MEETING BEING HELD, ALTHOUGH IT DOES NOT NECESSARILY RULE OUT  
MINI-SUMMIT IDEA. I WAS STRUCK BY COMPLETE WILLINGNESS OF  
AL-MARZOUQ TO ABANDON OBJECTIVE OF PRESERVING UNIFIED LEBANON.  
I WOULD IMAGINE THAT PALESTINIAN REACTION AND THAT OF OTHER ARAB  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 KUWAIT 04032 241038Z

STATES, PARTICULARLY RADICAL ONES, TO THIS PROSPECT WOULD BE  
DECIDEDLY NEGATIVE. THIS VIEW MAY MERELY BE REFLECTION OF  
INTENSE DESIRE OF KUWAITIS TO BRING LEBANESE CRISIS TO AN END,  
SO THAT UPSET IT IS CREATING IN ARAB WORLD WILL BE ELIMINATED AS  
POTENTIAL THREAT TO STABILITY HERE.  
MAESTRONE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONAL OPINION, DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, POLITICAL SITUATION, SUMMIT MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976KUWAIT04032  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760322-1217  
**From:** KUWAIT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760826/aaaaawak.tel  
**Line Count:** 113  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <05 OCT 2004 by SmithRJ>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARAB MINI-SUMMIT AND LEBANESE SOLUTION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, KU, LE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006